ints: Yang Kyu LIM I hereby certify that this paper and the documents referred to as enclosed Serial No.: 10/738,933 therewith are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class Title: Output Circuit mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Issue Fee, Filed: December 17, 2003 Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, Group Art Unit: 2816 on the date indicated: December 14, 2005. Examiner: Long T. Nguyen Atty. Docket Number: 29936/39855 Customer No.: 04743 Aaron/M. Peters Registration No. 48,801 Attorney for Applicant

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Mail Stop Issue Fee Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicant files this paper in response to the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance provided with the Notice of Allowance mailed September 15, 2005. Applicant respectfully requests that the following comments be considered to clarify the Examiner's general recitation of the elements of claims 1, 13 and 14.

Regarding the Examiner's general recitation of the elements, Applicant notes that while the Examiner has essentially paraphrased elements of independent claim 1 as not being disclosed in the prior art (with which Applicant agrees), Applicant notes that claim 13 does not recite the same language as in claim 1. In fact, on page 3 of the Reasons for Allowance, claim 13 has been misquoted as reciting "a first switch for supplying a first external power to be used as a second external power or shutting off the supply of the first external power according to a control signal, and a second switch for allowing one of input terminals to the output driver to have the potential of the first external power according to the control signal." However, claim 13 actually recites "a first switch for supplying a first external power to be used as a second external power in a normal operating mode and shutting off the supply of

the first external power in a deep power down mode, according to a control signal," and "a second switch for allowing one of input terminals of the output driver to have the potential of the first external power in the deep power down mode." Further, Applicant submits that claim 13 is patentable as including limitations other than the limitations that the Examiner has selected from claim 1.

Further, on page 3 of the Reasons for Allowance, claim 14 has been misquoted as reciting "a first switch for supplying a first external power to be used as a second external power or shutting off the supply of the first external power according to a control signal, and a second switch for allowing one of input terminals of the output driver to have the potential of the first external power according to the control signal." However, claim 14 actually recites "a first switch for supplying a first external power to be used as a second external power in a normal operating mode and shutting off the supply of the first external power in a deep power down mode, according to a control signal," and "a second switch for supplying the first external power to the first node according to the control signal of the deep power down mode." In any event, Applicant submits that each of claims 1-14 should be interpreted to include and should be construed to be limited only to the specific elements actually recited therein. The claims should not, therefore, be limited in any manner based on the Examiner's general recitation of elements of claims 1, 13 and 14 within the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance.

In addition to the Reasons for Allowance set forth in the allowance papers that were mailed in connection with the present application, it is respectfully submitted that the claims are allowable for the additional reasons that the invention defined by the language of the claims is neither anticipated by, nor would have it been obvious when taken as a whole in view of, the art of record.

Respectfully submitted,

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December 14, 2005